

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 17929 081719Z

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ACTION NEA-10

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PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /069 W
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P R 081715Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7417

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 17929

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MILI, PINS, PINT, LE, UK

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES WITH BRITISH ON LEBANON

1. FCO HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION DECISION ON WHETHER TO SEND BRITISH AMBASSADOR WAKEFIELD BACK TO LEBANON THIS WEEK. STAFF PAPER RECOMMENDING HE RETURN WAS DRAFTED BY FCO LEBANON DESK OFFICER WITH CONSIDERABLE MISGIVINGS ON NOVEMBER 5. AS OF MORNING NOVEMBER 8, WHEELER, ASSISTANT HEAD OF NEAR EAST DEPARTMENT, TERMED DEVELOPMENTS OVER LAST WEEKEND "DISCOURAGING". BRITISH NOW PLAN TO WATCH SITUATION UNTIL MID-WEEK BEFORE DECIDING ON WAKEFIELD'S RETURN.

2. WE NOTE FROM BEIRUT'S SITUATION REPORT OF NOVEMBER 6 (BEIRUT 8331) THAT CHARGE LANE HAS CROSSED TO WEST BEIRUT FOR CONVERSATIONS WITH RIGHTISTS. WE HOPE AS MUCH OF REPORTING ON THESE CONVERSATIONS AS FEASIBLE CAN BE PASSED TO LONDON FOR EXCHANGES WITH BRITISH. FCO INFORMS US THAT ITS CHARGE HANCOCK HAS ALSO CROSSED LINE AGAIN FOR SIMILAR CONVERSATIONS.

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

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